

ACTION SCT-00

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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D), B5

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| INFO | LOG-00 | AID-00 | AMAD-00 | CIAE-00 | INL-00 | DODE-00 | DOEE-00 |
| | WHA-00 | PERC-00 | DS-00 | EAP-00 | EB-00 | FBIE-00 | VCJ-00 |
| | FRB-00 | H-00 | TEDE-00 | INR-00 | JUSE-00 | LAB-01 | VCIE-00 |
| | NSAE-00 | NIMA-00 | GIWI-00 | DOHS-00 | FMPC-00 | SSO-00 | SS-00 |
| | TRSE-00 | ASDS-00 | CBP-00 | DSCC-00 | PRM-00 | DRL-00 | G-00 |
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2348

INFO ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 001348

NOFORN

FOR S/CT AND WHA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/02/2016

TAGS: PTER, PGOV, CA

SUBJECT: CANADA RANKLED BY COUNTRY REPORT ON TERRORISM

REF: 05 OTTAWA 3698

Classified By: Ambassador David Wilkins, reasons 1.4 (b) (d)

B1

B5

B1

PRESS CHIMES IN

4. (C/NF) Thus far, the Globe and Mail has led Canadian media in its reporting on the story. On Saturday April 29 the Globe ran a front page article under the headline "Citing 'liberal' immigration laws, U.S. blasts Canada on terrorism."

It states "the harsh assessment of Canada reflects a view within the U.S. political right, but one rarely given official sanction." The article points out that the report was prepared before the Conservative government took office and mentions the impact of the Arar affair on information sharing. It then states that "in language much tougher than in any previous report -- Canada was once lauded as a model partner in the war against terrorism -- it says terrorist have exploited the 'liberal Canadian immigration and asylum policies to enjoy safe haven, raise funds, arrange logistical support and plan terrorist attacks."

5. (C/NF) The Globe followed this up May 2 with an editorial entitled "Arar Illustrates What?" which focused on the report's contention that "the Arar case underscores a greater concern for the United States: the presence in Canada of numerous suspected terrorist and terrorist supporters." It describes this as "grotesque no-sequitur," asking "How does the fate of an innocent torture victim 'underscore' the presence of terrorists?" The editorial also points out that four of the five suspected terrorist named in the report are in jail and the fifth is under court-ordered conditions. It Qin jail and the fifth is under court-ordered conditions. It

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defends Canadian security law, which "allows, in exceptional cases, for deportation to countries where torture is likely; Europe has an absolute bar." And it reminds readers that the U.S. has 12 million illegal immigrants to Canada's 200,000, and that refugee acceptance rates in Canada are actually lower than in the U.S. It concludes by saying that "what befell Maher Arar shows why all countries should insist on due process in dangerous times."

B5

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WILKINS

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